Group An Unit: 1722 Examine Davis, R.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Tomohiko Horiguchi et al.

Appl. No. :

10/686,366

Filed

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October 14, 2003

For

AMPUTATED PART HOLDING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MAKING

Atty. Ref.: P1261US

MOULD OF AMPUTATED PART

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and includes a copy of Form PTO-1449 that identifies three non-patent publications. Copies of the publications are attached as well.

The first identified document appears at Volume 14, pages 176-178 of the JSPO Journal and relates to an apparatus and a method for plaster wrap casting by using air pressure. This reference corresponds to the Fig. 16 admitted prior art and is described in detail in paragraphs 0007-0010 of the subject application.

The other two references correspond to the admitted prior art in FIG. 17 of the subject application. This state-of-the-art is described in detail in paragraphs 0009-0013 and relates generally to an apparatus and method for plaster wrap casting on a standing state.

The Examiner will appreciate that the state-of-the-art represented by the attached non-patent publications is described clearly and in detail in the portion of the application extending from paragraphs 0006-0019 as well as FIGS. 15A-17C of the subject application. It is assumed, therefore, that the Examiner considered this state-of-the-art prior to issuing the Notice of Allowance

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on September 5, 2007 Marie B. Bufalo

Marie O. Bufals.

on August 14, 2007. Nevertheless, Japanese and U.S. counsel for the applicants realized that these references were not formally made of record. Therefore, to ensure that the applicants are complying with their duty under 37 CFR 1.97, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to formally make these non-patent publications of record. It is believed that the previously amended claims are patentable over all of the prior art, and the Examiner is encouraged to issue another Notice of Allowance as soon as possible. Please contact applicants attorney at the number below if there are any questions or other issues that need to be addressed.

Date: September 5, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald E. Hespos

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use setteral sheets if necessary)					Applicant(s) Tomohiko Horiguchi et al.				
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
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	T	1. JSPO Journal, Vol.	14 (2), p176-178, p	oublished	on April 1, 1998.				
		2. JSPO Journal, Vol.	16 (supplement), p	114-115,	published on Septembe	er 1, 2000.			
		3. PO Academy Journa	al, vol. 9 (2), p109-	110, publi	ished on September 20	01.			
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Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449)